



First meeting of the Pioneers in 1911 in Boston.

Become the **SPARK** of Change!
membership matters

VolunteerNow!

If you have visited the international headquarters Pioneers website (www.pioneersvolunteer.org) recently, you may have seen a feature called VolunteerNow! Located under the Volunteer main navigation button, this new tool has been designed to simplify locating and signing up for Pioneers' volunteer opportunities.

Its quick search capabilities allows you to enter your Pioneers sponsor company, city and province to find projects in your area. Then narrow down your projects by type of project, your interests or skills, the frequency of the project or date. VolunteerNow! also provides the opportunity to create your own volunteer profile, sign up for projects, invite friends to join you in volunteering for a project and log your volunteer hours. Logging your volunteer hours is critical to measuring the true impact Pioneers have in our local communities.

Once you've signed up for a project, VolunteerNow! will send you a reminder message as the date of your project approaches. It's never been easier to stay active as a volunteer so visit VolunteerNow! today!

Seal Marks Approach of Centennial

You may have noticed the 'gold' seal that appears in this issue of the *PioneersPress*. This seal marks the start of our countdown towards celebrating the Pioneers 100th Anniversary in 2011. Throughout the year to come, you'll see this seal accompany our new spark logo in all of the communication we share with you about ways you can get involved in this once-in-a-lifetime anniversary and equally important, how you can ensure the legacy of Pioneering you have helped build continues for centuries to come. It will also appear on commemorative items for you to earn and purchase. This seal reflects the core values held dear by Pioneers past and present - fellowship, loyalty and service. These are the values that have fueled our members commitment to volunteering countless hours since our founding positively impacting our local communities and the lives of so many in need. When you see this seal, take pride in knowing that as a member you have made a real difference and in doing so have made the Pioneers the great organization it is.



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PioneersPress

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE PIONEERS

A VOLUNTEER NETWORK

Winter 2010 Vol. 4, Issue 1

Canadian pioneers
a volunteer network

Pioneers Prepare to Honour 100th Anniversary

In 2011, we will celebrate the **100th anniversary of Pioneers**. Your dedication helped us reach this exciting milestone! As Pioneers, we take an active role in making our hometowns better places to live and work. As our Centennial anniversary approaches, join us in honouring Pioneering by participating in the **Centennial Rewards & Recognition Program**.

While the greatest reward of this program is guaranteeing the legacy of Pioneering continues for generations to come, there are also commemorative rewards in thanks for your commitment to the future of Pioneers.

Centennial Supporter Rewards Program

Consider joining a Centennial Circle of supporters and your cumulative giving will result in special commemorative rewards like Centennial inspired attire, anniversary mementos, and the opportunity to attend the Centennial Gala in Boston. Your commitment from the Bronze Circle to the Chairman's Centennial Circle can be made cumulatively over the next two years. Centennial Circle supporter levels begin at \$240 - that's just \$10 a month! Every gift counts!

Centennial Volunteer Recognition Program

Equally important as having the financial resources required to respond when Pioneers are needed, are Pioneers actively carrying out our mission. Receive special recognition when you volunteer. By entering the hours you volunteer as a Pioneer into Volunteer Now! at <https://www.pals.pioneersvolunteer.org/VM/index.aspx>, you'll receive Centennial commemorative items and special recognition in Pioneers' publications like the *PioneersPress* and our *Pioneers Projects & Programs Periodical*.

See the insert in this issue of *PioneersPress* for more details on how you can participate!

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letter from the chairman

Dear Fellow Pioneer,

I am thrilled to be joining the Pioneers as your new Chairman as this great organization prepares to celebrate its Centennial.

As Qwest's Idaho State President and a proud Pioneer myself, I have always valued the work of my local Qwest Pioneers. I recognize the genuine fellowship they share, the service they provide to our neighbours in need, and the good will they foster as community ambassadors for my company. I began my career in the telecommunications industry more than 25 years ago as a regulatory affairs manager for Mountain Bell in Boise. I have since held a variety of public policy, marketing, regulatory and legislative positions. The opportunity to lend my leadership and guidance to the Pioneers at an international level during this pivotal time in our history is truly an honour.

In this year leading up to the 100-year celebration of our founding, we will begin to recognize and celebrate our achievements while energizing for the future. Many local Pioneers units will be participating in a series of signature Pioneers' volunteer programs that will be rolled out across the organization in 2011. The projects follow a model that ensures we'll meet specific community needs while engaging current Pioneers, recruiting new members and generating visibility for the Pioneers.

How can you participate as a Pioneer? By continuing to do what you do best - volunteer! Report your hours at VolunteerNow!, our online volunteer management system, so we can measure our impact. Recruit a friend to experience the rewards of volunteering. Help spread the "buzz" about this great milestone by talking to co-workers, friends and family about it. Watch for interactive opportunities to share your stories and photos of Pioneering. Finally, support Pioneering by making Pioneers your charity of choice for financial contributions. In doing these things, you can earn exclusive Centennial commemorative items through our *Pioneers Centennial Rewards & Recognition Program*. And most importantly, you'll ensure the Pioneers' legacy continues for another 100 years.

I look forward to serving this great organization and celebrating our approaching Centennial with you!

Yours in Pioneering

Jim Schmit
Chairman, Pioneers

pioneers leadership insight

Fellow Canadian

As Pioneers, we are committed to making a real difference through our grassroots volunteerism. We have built a powerful legacy of positively impacting the lives of individuals and our communities.

As we approach our Centennial celebration, I thank you for your dedication to building the Pioneers' legacy through your generous gifts of time and talents. As you read this issue of the *PioneersPress*, I hope it will generate excitement about our plans to honour this incredible milestone.

The telecommunications industry has made an everlasting impact on the lives of people across the country and around the world. It continues to make an impact as it grows and changes every day. The same is true of Pioneering. You and your fellow Pioneers accomplish great things because you volunteer side-by-side to make life better for the people of your community. That's a fact you should take great pride in.

Just think of how many hearts we've touched through the years and how much our own lives have been enriched in the process.

I look forward to continuing to team together as we energize Pioneering for the next century and inspire the next generation of Pioneers.

A Proud Pioneer,



J. Michael Sears
President, Canadian Pioneers

calendar

February 2 Job Shadow Day
February 26 & 27 Pioneers' Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA
February 28 Pioneers Scholarship Application Deadline
April 18-24 Volunteer Week

For upcoming chapter events please visit www.canadianpioneers.ca or go to the international website at www.pioneersvolunteer.org and visit VolunteerNow! to find out about all the exciting Pioneering projects and activities going on in your local area and across the United States and Canada.



fundraising update

Sustaining the Spirit of Service

The *Spirit of Service* painting of lineman, Angus MacDonald, braving a snowstorm to ensure telephone service, embodies the dedication of employees in our industry and of Pioneers. This enduring spirit - the commitment to ensure that the Pioneers' nearly century-long legacy continues for the next 100 years - inspires a special program that helps financially support our valuable work.

The *Spirit of Service Sustainer Program* offers Pioneers, friends and family an opportunity to support their local Pioneers with recurring monthly or quarterly gifts. Recurring payments can be made using a credit card. As a *Spirit of Service* donor, you will truly 'sustain' your Pioneers by providing regular, reliable funds to support their programs in your area.

Beginning this year, gifts through this vital program will count toward special Pioneers Centennial commemorative rewards! See *insert in this PioneersPress issue for details.*

To become a Spirit of Service Sustainer, visit <https://www.pioneersvolunteer.org/donations/> or call 1-800-976-1914.

Pioneer Frank Fagan Red Cross Humanitarian of the Year

Frank Fagan, a long time Pioneer leader with the Bell Aliant Pioneers has demonstrated a life-long commitment to the betterment of his native province of Newfoundland and Labrador. He was recently recognized by the Canadian Red Cross as Humanitarian of the Year.

The Humanitarian Awards, established in 1997, are presented to individuals who have demonstrated the spirit of humanity through volunteer work, advocacy, leadership and/or philanthropy at home or around the world.

Frank is Chair of the Board of the Health Care Foundation of St. Johns; a member of the Board of EverGreen Environmental; Honourary Provincial Chair of the Peter Gzowski Golf Tournament for Literacy; Governor for the Junior Achievement Newfoundland and Labrador Business Hall of Fame; corporate board member of Computers for Schools; past President of TelecomPioneers International and served as Honourary Chair for National Volunteers Week 2006.

Frank is the former Executive Vice-President and Chief Operating Officer of Bell Aliant. He and his wife Pat, established the Frank and Pat Fagan Scholarship for Academic Excellence and Community Leadership in the Faculty of Medicine at Memorial University, which will provide for a \$5,000 annual scholarship award.

Scholarship Available to Pioneers Family Members

Pioneers have a long standing commitment to building healthy communities, especially in the area of education and providing resources for students in need. The Pioneers' scholarship program which is open to Pioneers family members was established to further this ideal and helps provide resources to prepare young citizens to live productive and successful lives.

This one-time award of \$1,000 is payable to an accredited post-secondary institution, skill/training center, or trade school. These funds are provided to assist students with tuition, required registration, or other fees. The scholarship is open to any high school senior related to a Pioneers member. It is intended to recognize students who are involved in community service, school and leadership activities and academic achievement.

Applications are being accepted now for this annual scholarship. The deadline for applications is February 28, 2010. For more information, visit <http://www.pioneersvolunteer.org/membercenter/membertoolsandresources/pioneersscholarshipprogram/default.aspx>

Want to receive Pioneers' information, news & Centennial updates by email?
Register your email address at www.pioneersvolunteer.org

contact us

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For membership questions or assistance call 1-800-976-1914 or email info@pioneersvolunteer.org

Please detach and return in the envelope provided

Gift Reply